

## 2009 YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY RESULTS

### Connecticut High School Survey Risk Behavior and Academic Performance Report

Health-Risk Behaviors	Percentage of high school students who engaged in each risk behavior, by type of grades mostly earned in school				P-Value	Statistical Association*
	A's	B's	C's	D's/F's		
Unintentional Injury and Violence-Related Behaviors						
Percentage of students who never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	5.5	6.7	14.7	27.7	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who rode one or more times during the past 30 days in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol	21.7	26.7	30.6	40.0	0.0033	Yes
Percentage of students who drove a car or other vehicle one or more times during the past 30 days when they had been drinking alcohol	7.0	7.3	12.3	18.6	0.0017	Yes
Percentage of students who carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on one or more of the past 30 days	6.2	11.2	17.3	34.4	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days	1.7	2.9	5.2	19.2	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who did not go to school on one or more of the past 30 days because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way to or from school	4.1	3.3	6.9	12.4	0.0028	Yes
Percentage of students who had been threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	6.2	4.5	10.8	16.8	0.0002	Yes
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months	16.4	25.9	41.4	56.5	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months in which they were injured and had to be treated by a doctor or nurse	2.2	2.0	5.9	10.3	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	6.9	7.4	13.8	19.4	0.0033	Yes
Percentage of students who were ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months	6.4	11.5	9.9	14.8	0.0041	Yes
Percentage of students who had ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	4.7	6.9	8.9	18.9	0.0053	Yes
Percentage of students who felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months	17.7	25.0	31.1	39.6	0.0000	Yes

\* p<0.01, using logistic regression and controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in school.

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Unintentional Injury and Violence-Related Behaviors						
Percentage of students who seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	11.0	14.2	15.0	28.3	0.0009	Yes
Percentage of students who made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months	7.9	11.4	12.0	21.5	0.0017	Yes
Percentage of students who actually attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months	3.9	7.4	8.5	26.7	0.0005	Yes
Percentage of students who made a suicide attempt during the past 12 months that resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse	1.5	2.6	3.4	8.9	0.0008	Yes

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Tobacco Use						
Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days	10.5	15.5	28.8	31.9	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the past 30 days	2.7	5.3	10.8	14.6	0.0000	Yes

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	A's	B's	C's	D's/F's		
Alcohol and Other Drug Use						
Percentage of students who had their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13 years	13.2	14.8	24.0	37.5	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days	32.7	43.9	55.9	57.7	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours, on one or more of the past 30 days	15.8	24.7	34.7	30.3	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who had at least one drink of alcohol on school property on one or more of the past 30 days	2.9	4.0	8.2	12.3	0.0003	Yes
Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during their life	23.8	36.8	53.7	60.1	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years	3.2	4.2	10.4	16.4	0.0010	Yes
Percentage of students who used marijuana one or more times during the past 30 days	12.2	20.6	35.0	35.0	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who used marijuana on school property one or more times during the past 30 days	3.7	5.2	9.2	17.3	0.0007	Yes
Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during their life	3.0	4.8	7.7	12.8	0.0010	Yes
Percentage of students who used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during the past 30 days	1.2	2.4	2.8	8.4	0.0370	No
Percentage of students who sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life	8.1	8.6	15.4	19.4	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who used heroin one or more times during their life	1.9	2.5	4.2	12.9	0.0026	Yes
Percentage of students who used methamphetamines one or more times during their life	2.8	2.2	4.9	10.5	0.0178	No
Percentage of students who used ecstasy one or more times during their life	3.7	3.9	6.3	14.8	0.0014	Yes
Percentage of students who took steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life	2.1	2.1	3.6	7.4	0.0221	No
Percentage of students who used a needle to inject any illegal drug into their body one or more times during their life	1.2	1.5	3.5	10.2	0.0004	Yes

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	A's	B's	C's	D's/F's		
Alcohol and Other Drug Use						
Percentage of students who were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property during the past 12 months	24.2	28.3	34.8	41.1	0.0007	Yes

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	A's	B's	C's	D's/F's		
Sexual Risk Behaviors						
Percentage of students who ever had sexual intercourse	23.5	41.2	59.9	65.5	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years	2.1	3.4	8.7	12.2	0.0017	Yes
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life	4.3	10.0	17.6	25.9	0.0003	Yes
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse with one or more people during the past three months	18.1	30.0	40.4	55.9	0.0000	Yes
Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	23.2	21.8	29.6	25.9	0.0827	No
Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used a condom during last sexual intercourse	62.9	62.0	61.0	38.9	0.0141	No
Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, the percentage who used birth control pills to prevent pregnancy before last sexual intercourse	29.1	24.0	21.5	32.7	0.1796	No

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Health-Risk Behaviors	Percentage of high school students who engaged in each risk behavior, by type of grades mostly earned in school				P-Value	Statistical Association*
	A's	B's	C's	D's/F's		
Weight Management and Dietary Behaviors						
Percentage of students who were overweight (i.e., at or above the 85th percentile but below the 95th percentile for body mass index, by age and sex)**	13.4	13.9	15.6	21.3	0.3549	No
Percentage of students who were obese (i.e., at or above the 95th percentile for body mass index, by age and sex)**	7.1	9.3	14.7	16.2	0.1491	No
Percentage of students who described themselves as slightly or very overweight	22.5	26.5	27.2	29.6	0.2690	No
Percentage of students who were trying to lose weight	45.3	47.0	44.6	48.2	0.5236	No
Percentage of students who exercised to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days	64.5	60.6	58.0	59.0	0.9395	No
Percentage of students who ate less food, fewer calories, or foods low in fat to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days	42.1	39.6	33.5	33.6	0.1610	No
Percentage of students who went without eating for 24 hours or more to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days	6.2	8.3	13.1	17.0	0.0001	Yes
Percentage of students who drank 100% fruit juices one or more times during the past seven days	85.8	83.5	79.6	69.3	0.0005	Yes
Percentage of students who ate fruit one or more times during the past seven days	92.2	90.2	81.0	80.4	0.0001	Yes
Percentage of students who ate green salad one or more times during the past seven days	74.0	67.0	65.8	58.0	0.0817	No
Percentage of students who ate potatoes one or more times during the past seven days	71.1	66.8	61.2	63.5	0.2091	No
Percentage of students who ate carrots one or more times during the past seven days	60.7	53.3	40.0	47.3	0.0003	Yes
Percentage of students who ate other vegetables one or more times during the past seven days	90.8	84.7	78.6	71.7	0.0057	Yes
Percentage of students who ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day during the past seven days	25.2	19.4	18.1	21.8	0.0004	Yes
Percentage of students who ate fruits two or more times per day during the past seven days	43.5	33.1	30.4	35.4	0.0001	Yes
Percentage of students who ate vegetables three or more times per day during the past seven days	17.1	11.7	9.8	10.8	0.0016	Yes

\*  $p < 0.01$ , using logistic regression and controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade in school.

\*\*Overweight and obese prevalence estimates for 1999 differ slightly from previously published results because different BMI cut points were used in 1999 than in subsequent years. To make these prevalence estimates comparable, the 1999 prevalence estimates were recalculated using the updated BMI cut points.

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Physical Inactivity and Unhealthy Dietary Behaviors						
Percentage of students who were physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day on five or more of the past seven days	49.2	45.6	44.6	28.6	0.0274	No
Percentage of students who watched three or more hours per day of TV on an average school day	21.5	32.1	34.2	38.3	0.0154	No
Percentage of students who played video or computer games or used a computer for something that was not school work three or more hours per day on an average school day	22.4	27.3	32.9	42.6	0.0001	Yes

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Site-Added Questions						
Percentage of students who describe their health in general as fair or poor	4.7	5.7	10.2	21.8	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who have been absent from school three or more days during the past six months	40.7	57.7	75.0	77.9	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students whose property such as their car, clothing, or books had been stolen or damaged on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	23.9	24.6	32.5	29.8	0.0046	Yes
Percentage of students whose boyfriend or girlfriend ever verbally or emotionally abused them (for example, called them names, made fun of them in front of others, made fun of their body or looks, or told them that they are no good or worthless) during the past 12 months	11.7	18.0	22.2	25.0	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who have been harassed or bullied on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	23.1	26.5	24.1	33.0	0.0953	No
Percentage of students who have been harassed on school property because of their perceived sexual orientation one or more times during the past 12 months	9.4	8.2	6.2	18.5	0.0047	Yes
Percentage of students who have been harassed on school property because of their weight, size, or physical appearance one or more times during the past 12 months	21.8	22.0	24.7	33.0	0.0732	No
Percentage of students who would most likely talk with a teacher or other adult in this school about it when they feel sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious	2.6	1.1	1.3	3.9	0.0204	No
Percentage of students who never or rarely get the help they need when they feel sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious	18.0	22.5	27.4	35.8	0.0002	Yes
Percentage of students who have taken over-the-counter drugs to get high one or more times during their life	5.7	9.3	13.6	21.9	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who have taken a prescription drug (such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax) without a doctor's prescription one or more times, to get high during their life	5.5	8.7	13.9	19.0	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students whose partner was three or more years older the first time they had sexual intercourse	4.8	6.9	12.4	17.7	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who have had sexual contact with females and males during their life	2.6	4.9	5.0	12.1	0.0024	Yes

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Site-Added Questions						
Percentage of students who took laxatives or diet pills or powders (without a doctor's advice), or vomited to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight during the past 30 days	3.3	5.0	8.2	11.3	0.0082	Yes
Percentage of students who ate at least one meal with their family on three or more of the past seven days	71.4	65.2	55.4	48.4	0.0004	Yes
Percentage of students who most of the time or always went hungry because there was not enough food in their home during the past 30 days	2.7	4.0	5.0	5.0	0.6093	No
Percentage of students who have ever been taught about how Hepatitis A, B, and C viruses are spread	63.9	68.7	65.6	59.9	0.1536	No
Percentage of students who have ever been tested for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS	7.5	10.5	19.5	25.6	0.0001	Yes
Percentage of students who have ever been told by a doctor or nurse that they had a sexually transmitted disease (STD)	2.4	3.9	4.3	7.5	0.2476	No
Percentage of students who last saw a dentist for a check-up, exam, teeth cleaning, or other dental work during the past 12 months	85.9	78.9	68.2	68.8	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who usually spend three or more hours after school without an adult present on a school day	32.8	39.2	43.7	48.0	0.0599	No
Percentage of students whose parents or other adults in their family ever talked with them about what they expect them to do or not to do when it comes to sex	64.5	64.5	62.3	59.9	0.1611	No
Percentage of students who talked with their parents or other adults in their family about sexuality or ways to prevent HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), or pregnancy about once during the past 12 months	28.5	28.5	19.0	22.6	0.0040	Yes
Percentage of students who have been taught about sexuality in school during the past 12 months	55.5	58.4	55.4	51.6	0.5367	No
Percentage of students who would feel comfortable seeking help from one or more adults besides their parents if they had an important question affecting their life	78.5	78.8	74.8	59.7	0.0208	No
Percentage of students whose parents or other adults in their family never or rarely know where they are when they are away from home	5.2	9.5	15.9	28.0	0.0003	Yes
Percentage of students who agree or strongly agree that their family loves them and gives them help and support when they need it	90.2	86.2	81.1	68.8	0.0000	Yes

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Site-Added Questions						
Percentage of students who took part in organized after school, evening, or weekend activities (such as school clubs; sports; community center groups; music, art, or dance lessons; drama; church; or other supervised activities) on one or more of the past seven days	81.6	67.8	51.0	40.5	0.0000	Yes
Percentage of students who work at a paying job outside their home five or more hours during an average week when they are in school	21.5	28.5	26.2	21.0	0.2408	No
Percentage of students who spent one or more hours helping other people without getting paid (such as helping out a hospital, daycare center, food pantry, youth program, community service agency, or doing other things) to make their community a better place for people to live during the past 30 days	55.5	48.9	37.3	42.4	0.0009	Yes
Percentage of students who get eight or more hours of sleep on an average school night	28.6	27.7	19.5	12.0	0.0003	Yes
Percentage of students who gambled for money or possessions one or more times during the past 12 months	22.0	27.3	32.3	26.1	0.0172	No
Percentage of students who think they probably or definitely will not complete a post high school program such as a vocational training program, military service, community college, or four-year college	8.9	13.5	20.0	25.2	0.0001	Yes
Percentage of students who live with at least one parent most of the time	97.2	95.3	95.1	86.7	0.0853	No
Percentage of students who usually sleep at night in a house or an apartment with their parents or guardians	96.9	96.4	94.0	89.6	0.0077	Yes

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